THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Nepal's newly-elected Constituent Assembly declared Nepal a Federal Democratic Republic at its first sitting on May 28, 2008.

(c) and (e) No, Sir.

(d) and (f) Does not arise.

Indians working in Afghanistan

1154. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is running out of options in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, whether a number of persons employed and working in Afghanistan's development of road, etc. were kidnapped and killed by the extremists;

(c) if so, the total number of Indians working in Afghanistan that have been attacked so far;

(d) the action India and Afghanistan have taken to safeguard the Indian working there on these projects; and

(e) whether these attacks have hampered the progress of development of Afghanistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There have been 12 Indian fatal casualties resulting from terrorist attacks since November 2005.

(d) The security of Indians working in various development projects in Afghanistan is kept under constant scrutiny with the Government of Afghanistan and whenever required additional measures are taken through upgradation of levels of security.

(e) A continued deterioration in security situation may adversely impact the smooth and timely implementation of development project in which Indian professionals are engaged in Afghanistan.

G-8 Summit in Tokyo

†1155. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of India attended the G-8 summit, held in Tokyo, Japan on 1st July, 2008;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.